

Series I
Correspondence,
1932-1973

Box 8, Folder 2

January 23, 1948 -
November 15, 1949

0022



23 January 1948

My dear Dick:

I have been threatening to write you in reply to your very nice letter of 19 December for a long time. First, my apologies for not writing you before.

My principal reason for not writing is that Elsa was very ill in the hospital for some six weeks. On the Monday before the game one of my grandchildren crawled right under her feet, causing Elsa to fall. What we thought was a slight concussion turned out to be a very serious one. She should have gone to the hospital immediately, but she insisted that she was going to be home the day of the game, which, as you know, she was. Fortunately, she came through all right and is now at home, and if I can only keep her quiet for a spell, I am sure she will be all right.

The Selection Board was just as much a surprise to me as it was to you, particularly in one or two of the pickups. I thoroughly approve of the one young man that they went out of the panel to get, namely, Libbey, who, as you know, did a bang-up job in the Destroyers in every campaign he was in.

Next, I want to tell you how very much Elsa and I appreciate your offering your apartment to us while you were West. I should have liked nothing better than to have gotten away over the holidays, but with Elsa in the hospital I had many trials and tribulations here. Elsa wants me to tell you how much she appreciated it and also that when you come to Philadelphia we will expect you to come directly to Quarters "M" where you will be always welcome.

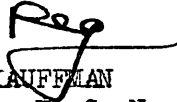
Incidentally, as you probably know, Mrs. Wear has gone to Florida.

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Again my thanks, and with very best regards from
Elsa and myself, I am

Very sincerely,



J. L. KAUFFMAN
Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy
Commandant

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

0024

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Commodore Richard W. Bates, USN

Naval War College

Newport, Rhode Island

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DEPUTY CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS (PERSONNEL)
WASHINGTON

4 February 1948

Dear Rafe:

I was much interested in your account of the conversation you had with Hanson Baldwin. Indirectly, I took him to task on approximately the same grounds as you will see from the enclosed copy of a letter I wrote to the Harper's Magazine. The editors replied stating that they had referred my letter to Baldwin. I have heard nothing since.

I am sorry that I overlooked the copy of the Pay Report, but it is going forward under separate cover.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

W. M. Fechteler,
Vice Admiral, USN

Captain R. W. Bates, USN
Naval War College,
Newport, Rhode Island.

Encl.

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Honolulu T. H.

24 March, 1941

Dear Rafe: —

I thank you for your very kind letter. It was a breath from the Rafe of old, a very wholesome, healthy puff.

If that old heart of yours shows any wear and tear, it is largely because it was filled to overflowing with kindness, friendship and hospitality for those who knew you best. I feel certain that with all of your good common-sense you will learn to live with your heart to a ripe, beneficent old age. Most people

simply kill themselves worrying
about and fighting against a situa-
tion they cannot lick. So for-
give me if I don't start worrying
about you and simply depend on your
proven ability to "estimate the situa-
tion".

You know how I feel about your
not having been given the privilege
of demonstrating what a good flag
officer you would be. Let's cast it
water over the dam until we
can get together in the mellow
atmosphere of a good drink and
snooze off a rage. But for gods
sake let's not sour on life, there
is still so much fun to be
had!

You will note I said "fun".
I don't believe in working at our
age where life begins to be
a problem. Hence my resignation
from Hawaiian Principles Co as of
15 February. There were certain
factors and personal traits that could
not be made to jibe as far as
my peace of mind was concerned.
And my soul steel cannot be bought
with money in the shape of a fine
salary. I'll get along what much
retired pay and a few extras which
can be added to I feel sure.

Emily and I leave here on
31 March for the east coast via
the Caval. We arrive in New

Orleans about 17 April and expect
to have a few days in New York
shortly thereafter. Then we
open up our little house at
213 Horn St. Annapolis
and as soon as our furniture
arrives. We had no house
out here and we are simply
establishing a base at Annapolis
from which we can operate at
discretion.

Then in June we start west
again, motoring across the continent,
and leave by air for Honolulu on 21
June. Eunice will have her first
baby about 11 July and I am sure Elinor
and I want to be here for that
shot. Jim Castle is a fine young

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man and they are very happy, which
of course is a great satisfaction to us.

We then are considering re-
turning to the mainland the latter
part of August, returning to the
Canadian north coast and a
seasonal trip back east, but
anything can happen to alter
that plan.

I am presently exploring the
situation out here for the North Ameri-
can Twp. Ins Co (of which I am a direc-
tor) with a view to their establishing
a general agency in Anvik. If it
develops favorably and in course of
negotiations, I may possibly devote some
time out here as the company's repre-
sentative in overall charge. At present
that is a speculation for I am

advice to binding myself to any
one thing at this time.

We have found it impossible
to get located permanently out here
in a home. Prices have been terrific
to buy a rent. That has been
one source of dissatisfaction. Then
I found myself in a situation where
I could not be happy in the work I
was doing. There were several factors
which could not be explained. Money
couldn't hold me in a job under the
circumstances. Independence means too
much for me at this age. So I resigned
as of 15 Feb. and I am relieved!

Feel Raymond I have always liked
the area he plans to settle in. any-
thing can happen for I am foot-loose and
fringe free.

God bless you and boy. I be there
Euros join in all good wishes. Best to
Margaret & Raymond too
as ever
Howard

In reply address not the signer of this letter, but Bureau of Naval Personnel, Navy Department, Washington 25, D. C.

Refer to No.

Per s-83-AB

NAVY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



28 May 1948

Commodore R. W. Bates
Head of Department of Analysis
U. S. Naval War College
Newport, R. I.

Dear Commodore:

I have recently had the opportunity to read and finish your survey of "The Battle of the Coral Sea," and I just wanted to drop you this note to say that I think it is one of the clearest, most interesting, and well-thought-out analysis that it has ever been my pleasure to read. I can well appreciate the great amount of work required to cull the chaff from the grain in order to prepare this outstanding study. Congratulations to you and your Staff on a magnificent job.

I am looking forward with great pleasure to your report on "Midway" and "The Battle of Savo Island."

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "E. P. Southwick".

E. P. SOUTHWICK

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ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO:
COMMANDING OFFICER
AND REFER TO

TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH
VIA NAVY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON D C

U. S. NAVAL PROVING GROUND.
DAHLGREN, VA.

1 September 1948

Dear Rafe,

Thank you very much indeed for sending me the copy of your analysis of the Coral Sea Battle. I have been reading it with a great deal of interest and have been much impressed by the thoroughness with which it was compiled.

Martha and I did so much enjoy catching a short glimpse of you that evening with the Johnsons at Newport.

With very best wishes from both of us,

Sincerely yours,

Turner

Captain R. W. Bates, USN
U. S. Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

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4 October 1948

My dear Dick:

My apologies for not replying to your letter of 24 August before this. My reason being that I wanted to discuss the matter with Bill Fechteler personally.

The sum and substance of our conversation and Bill's ideas on the subject are more or less as follows:

- (a) We both agreed that in our opinion you should be selected for Rear Admiral and that we could see no reason for your not having been selected prior to this time. However, as Bill put it, "I share your views on his ability, but after all, he is 56 years of age and I would not think he will stand much chance of being promoted, if for no other reason than his age."
- (b) In so far as your retiring physically, if you are really physically retirable now, the proper time to start action towards physical retirement would be in consequence of the findings of the medicoes on your annual physical examination in December. I do not believe that initiating a request at this time would be in order, and, in fact, think it would be a mistake.
- (c) In regard to remaining on active duty, although neither Bill nor BuPers could make any definite commitment they see no reason why you could not be retained on active duty after retirement if the President of the War College requests your services for a SPECIFIC JOB. Naturally this request must state that in so far as the job is concerned, there is no one available that can do the job as well as you can, and further, that

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it is not a "new job" but one in which you have been employed.

I am not certain, but I hope that I will not be a member of this Board. In going over the panel for the Junior officers coming up for selection, I have personally made out fitness reports on a very large number of them who were with me in the Destroyers, etc., and it would be difficult for me to follow what I think may be a directive to divide the total number of selectees into three groups, namely, Aviators, Submariners and honest-to-god seafaring gents. However, if I should be on the Board I will try and look out for those that go down to the sea in ships.

I trust all goes well with you and now that the summer is over you are relaxing and getting ready for the "Kelly Pool Sessions," and the numerous other winter activities.

Business as usual here and it looks like a tough fall schedule. Don't forget you are personally invited to have lunch with us the day of the Army-Navy game. It will probably be crowded as hell, as usual, but Elsa and I are always more than glad to see you.

With my very best personal regards, I am

Very sincerely,


J. L. KAUFFMAN
Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy
Commandant

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

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In reply address not the signer of this letter, but Bureau of Naval Personnel, Navy Department, Washington 25, D. C.

Refer to No.

NAVY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

6 October 1948

Commodore R. W. Bates
Head, Analysis Department
U. S. Naval War College
Newport, R. I.

Dear Commodore:

I contacted the Printing and Publications Section, Bureau of Naval Personnel regarding your request made in our telephone conversation on 5 October, for a single copy of your opus on "The Battle of Midway" and regret to say that I was informed it would be impossible to forward a copy to you because the book was packed and ready for delivery at the Government Printing Office at the time of your request. You should receive this shipment (740 copies) at the Naval War College on 8 October.

Sincerely,

"Bud" Southwick

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Capt Bates

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

20 October 48

Rear Admiral A. E. Smith
President, Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Hoke:

Yours of September 23rd finally caught up with me at the above address a few days ago.

I have retained no files or data on our So Pac operations. Accordingly, the following information on the questions propounded is from recollection only.

In compliance with Admiral Turner's request, we had two B-17 aircraft installed bomb bay tanks to extend their range from Espiritu Santo and assigned the sector 290-318 from Malaita. I recall having calculated later that these aircraft must have missed the enemy cruisers by about sixty miles at the time of their turn around at the limits of search on the 8th of August.

With reference to communications--the details of our communication arrangement with Southwest Pacific has escaped me, but I recall that it was decided that direct guarding of each others search aircraft was impracticable due to frequency difficulties and circuits involved. The arrangement was that search reports would be immediately rebroadcasted on our respective circuits. I recall distinctly receiving the contact report in question on the afternoon of 8 August; the exact time of receipt I do not now remember but the report was broadcast from SWPA.

I regret that I cannot be more specific in my comment; however, I am sure that McCain provided a great deal of specific information to the investigation of the SAVO cruiser action which was conducted, as I remember, by Admiral Hepburn in 1943. That should be on record in the Navy Department or in the Archives.

With kind regards,

Very sincerely,

M. B. Gardner
M. B. GARDNER
Rear Admiral, USN

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Refer to:

U. S. NAVAL PHOTOGRAPHIC CENTER
NAVAL AIR STATION
ANACOSTIA 20, D. C.

18 October 1948.

Captain Richard W. Bates, U.S.N.
Naval War College,
Newport. R.I.

Dear Captain Bates:

Our motion picture script on "The Battle of the Coral Sea" has been received with considerable interest here at Photographic Center. Mr. Walter Evans, head of Training Films, and his assistant Mr. J.B. Etheredge, now have copies on their desks and their reactions have been highly favorable. I am also sending a script to Mr. John E. Burleson who has taken Robert Morse's place in BuPers.

Spencer Bostwick, one of our staff artists, will commence his series of sketches on Wednesday. Together we will work up a "story-board" which will consist of a format of these sketches, with animation action indicated, in our present script sequence. We hope to have these completed by the third week in November when we shall bring them to Newport for your approval. Then we can work out our final script version.

It has been a great pleasure to be associated with you in putting forth the details of this battle. My regards!

Cordially yours,

Howard S. Southgate
Howard S. Southgate
Project Supervisor.

P.S. My regards also to Cobb and Innis.

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Refer to:

U. S. NAVAL PHOTOGRAPHIC CENTER
NAVAL AIR STATION
ANACOSTIA 20, D. C.

4 November 1948.

Captain Richard W. Bates, U.S.N.
Naval War College,
Newport,
Rhode Island.

Dear Captain Bates:

Our motion picture script on "The Battle of the Coral Sea" has been approved by Mr. John Burleson and officers of Bureau of Personnel. This Bureau is now originating requests for similar scripts on "Midway" and "Savo Island." This has been at my suggestion, or rather your suggestion, that these scripts be activated while the details were fresh with you and your staff.

Sketches on "The Coral Sea" are progressing. We have had a number of visual problems. I have also put in a request at our film library for any possible film footage that might have been photographed of this action. This will take a little time as miscellaneous footage is indexed in the name of the individual ship. If the library comes up with any interesting shots, I should like you to see them.

We shall be involved at least two weeks more in these preliminary sketches and then I should like to come to Newport for another conference.

Has "Midway" come off the press? If you wish to send me a copy with the important passages underscored, as we did with "Coral Sea," I should then be briefed on this second battle at the time of our second meeting.

My regards and best wishes to you and your staff.

Sincerely,

Howard Southgate
Howard Southgate
Project Supervisor.

P.S I have been reading Mahan's "Influence of Sea Power on History" with much interest.

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THOMAS ALVA EDISON FOUNDATION, Inc.

President

MR. CHARLES F. KETTERING

Executive Director

VICE ADMIRAL HAROLD G. BOWEN
USN (Ret.)

Our New Address

MAIN ST. AT LAKESIDE AVE.
WEST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY
OR ange 3-6800 Ext. 551

November 10, 1948

Capt. R. U. Bates
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Bates:

I was delighted to hear from you in your letter of
25 October 1948.

You say in your letter that "I understand that in the
spring of 1938 President Roosevelt requested you to
nominate to him three Commanders, any one of which you
felt would be competent to be Chief of the Bureau of
Engineering. I understood further that I was one of the
three so nominated."

I have racked my brains, but I cannot remember having
been requested by President Roosevelt or anyone to make
any nominations for my relief as Chief of the Bureau of
Engineering.

However, Albert Church has a photographic memory, and may
I suggest that you communicate with him. It might be
that Albert could remember some circumstance which would
revive my memory of the subject. As a matter of fact,
my stock in the Navy Department was so low after I won the
high pressure high temperature fight that I don't think
anyone asked me my advice on anything.

As you notice from my letterhead, I am now up here in
West Orange, New Jersey; and two weeks ago I moved my
residence from Washington to One Overlook Terrace,
Short Hills, New Jersey.

I am glad that you are working on a critical analysis,
both strategic and technical, of the Naval battles of
World War II. I hope that sometime I may be allowed to
find out what you may have concluded.

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Capt. R. U. Bates

-2-

November 10, 1948

Anytime you get down this way don't forget to call me and we will get together and have a critical analysis, both strategic and technical, of all the battles that were fought in our time before World Wars got under way.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Vice Admiral Harold G. Bowen
Executive Director

HGB:RH

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Refer to:

U. S. NAVAL PHOTOGRAPHIC CENTER
NAVAL AIR STATION
ANACOSTIA 20, D. C.

22 November 1948.

Captain Richard W. Bates, U.S.N.
Naval War College,
Newport, Rhode Island.

Dear Captain Bates:

Thank you for your most cordial letter of 8 November and it is my regret that I am not able to return to Newport at the time estimated. Work on the graphics of "Coral Sea" is moving along but not with the full celerity I desire.

At present we are going over the script that we mutually worked out and matching the narration with visuals in the form of key sketches. Full specifications of these visuals must then be written and submitted to three commercial motion picture producers for their bids on the job which is then assigned to one of them for production. Before the script is submitted for these bids, I wish to review it with you. I am hoping that this will be within two weeks' time.

In the meantime I should like to get a start on Midway. The Bureau of Personnel library in the Annex does not have a copy but would like to possess one. I believe that there are three copies in CNO.

Bureau of Personnel, through John Burleson, has asked me to explore the possibilities and methods of doing a film on "History of the Navy". I have consulted Captain John B. Heffernan of EXOS office. Captain Heffernan believes such a challenging subject should be broken down into a number of films for adequate coverage. At the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Captain Robert Rice called together his English-History-Government experts: R.S. Pease, Richard West, Elmer Potter. They stated a series of films on Naval History would be of immense use in Academy classes and for Reserve training. West suggested a film for each war--6 twenty minute subjects. Your humble servant suggested that the approach might be the Mahan one and the general treatment that of "Influence of Sea Power on American History". Captain Rice was of the opinion that we could have no better model and guide.

I wonder if you would care to send me your suggestions on the proper

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Refer to:

U. S. NAVAL PHOTOGRAPHIC CENTER
NAVAL AIR STATION
ANACOSTIA 20, D. C.

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method of handling this history subject. Your ideas would be most helpful and I could submit them to Mr. Burleson who in turn will submit them to the Review Board in his request for these films on December 7th.

My regards to you and to your staff.

Cordially yours,

Howard Southgate

Howard Southgate
Project Supervisor.

0044

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
AIR FORCE
COMMANDER ATTACK CARRIER AIR GROUP THIRTEEN
C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Commodore R.W. BATES, USN,
Naval War College,
Newport, Rhode Island.

21 December 1948.

Dear Commodore,

The "Battle of Midway" copy arrived just as we were leaving Tsingtao for what has become the return trip home. It was with considerable pride that I re-read it, and I want to thank you for sending it to me.

I am indeed sorry that the draft copy which we used to enter corrections has not been found. I did definitely turn it in to the archives, and if it is not now there, then someone else has removed it. I believe that a shelf by shelf search would reveal it. I am positive that it has never been with my personal papers.

The cruise has been most interesting although we did not fly nearly as much as we hoped. Several times in Tsingtao, Captain Russel Smith and I had dinner together. Bob Strong who was Mr. Nichols' predecessor at the War College, is the consul in Tsingtao. He and his wife came to dinner aboard ship to have a look at a carrier. I was rather surprised to learn that State Department officials out here have not felt free to express their opinions regarding China frankly. It seems that transient experts who on several recent occasions were sent out by congressional committees, arrive with their conclusions already in mind. To suggest that possibly a Chinese Communist victory in China might not be nearly so bad as some of the alternatives is enough to arouse suspicion of "Communistic sympathies" - a charge State Department officials particularly don't like. STRONG thinks we should do business with the Chinese Communists, as does Admiral Badger. The Chinese reportedly dislike Americans, but dislike the Russians much more. He feels perfectly sure that all the material aid in the world would be useless. Our people have seen quantities of aircraft now ruined by lack of care still sitting where they were first delivered. Except for food the same is true of other materials. Mr. Truman's victory was a bitter blow to the Nationalists as they were expecting increased aid on their own terms.

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UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
AIR FORCE
COMMANDER ATTACK CARRIER AIR GROUP THIRTEEN
C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

We enjoyed a brief stay in General MacArthur's Japan. The occupation there appears particularly well organized, and a highly desirable spot for duty. The Navy contingent is quite small. Except at Yokosuka there are almost no Naval officers in the area.

Please remember me to Commanders Cobb and Innis and to the Archives staff. I do hope that the book is found, as it leaves me with a most unpleasant feeling. A merry Christmas to all of you, and with my best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,
David C. Richardson
David Richardson

Commander D.C. RICHARDSON, USN
Commander, Carrier Air Group THIRTEEN,
% Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, California.

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The READER'S DIGEST

PAUL PALMER . *Senior Editor*



Peasantville, N.Y.

11 January 1949

Dear Bogy:

It was generous of you to write me such a detailed letter in comment on the Huie articles. I appreciate your interest and your help.

I regret that I cannot take time out from pressing duties to answer you in the same detail: but perhaps we can get together in New York sometime and talk the whole matter over - as I have done with various other Navy men. The main point at issue, it seems to me, is at present the choice of a strategy which will, first, deter the Russians from war and, second, destroy them if war does come. This choice must be made, not only for purely military reasons, but also because we have only a limited amount of money to spend on our military establishment, and the major part of it should be devoted to our main strategic arm.

We believe that a strategy of long-range bombing by the Air Force is this country's one best choice; that we should concentrate on it. This does not mean in any way that we shouldn't have a Navy or an Army. The Navy has vitally important work to perform in controlling the submarine menace and in keeping the sea-lanes open. That job calls for naval aviation for use

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at sea and for pin-point attacks on submarine pens in enemy bases; but it does not call for the construction of gigantic super carriers for strategic bombing of Russia.

The eventual solution of the whole problem would be, to my way of thinking, a single armed force, with a single staff, and a single chief of staff. If we can ever get this, I would just as soon see an admiral at the head of it - for I feel that the Navy Officer Corps is superior to the Army and Air Force Officer Corps, and I feel sure that the show would be properly run and that long-range land-based bombers would be the key strategic implement.

I hope that these ideas will be made clear in our articles as they appear from month to month. Let me know when you are next in town, and we will get together.

All the best,

Paul

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ADM THEOBALD



Marblehead

January 27th.
[7-21]

Dear Rafe,

I am sorry to hear that you are about to be retired. I know, from my own experience, what a wrench the first realization that one's active naval career is at an end can be. But, after about a year to accustom yourself to the new life, you will find that you are fully adjusted to the new conditions. At least, that was my experience.

You have much to look back upon in your splendid naval career, especially your very important war service.

Betty and I would be delighted if you would visit us at least once before you leave these parts, more often if you can. Bring Bobby with you, if he finds himself free when you are.

All best wishes from Betty and me,

As ever

Fuzzy.

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Address reply to
Commandant,
First Naval District
and refer to:

MLD:SMN

HEADQUARTERS
FIRST NAVAL DISTRICT
NAVY BUILDING
495 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON 10, MASS.

28 January 1949

Captain Richard W. Bates, U.S.N.
Naval Hospital
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Rafe:

I just saw a copy of your orders before Naval Retiring Board. I hope it is nothing more serious than fallen arches resulting from all the load which people like me put upon you in the heat of the Pacific.

I suppose you will retire anyway in June, and this I consider to be a distinct loss to the Service. You know I always thought you would be promoted and never could understand why you weren't.

Have you any idea where you will go when you leave the Service? As you know, I retire August 1st, and we expect to live in or near Boston. We certainly want to have you up here to stay with us before you depart. Do you expect to go back to the War College again, or what are your plans?

Lila joins me in all good wishes, and hopes that we may see you soon.

Always sincerely,

M. L. Deyo
~~Rear Admiral~~, U. S. Navy

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MORAN TOWING & TRANSPORTATION CO., INC.

17 BATTERY PLACE, NEW YORK 4, N.Y.

JOSEPH H. MORAN, 2ND
VICE PRESIDENT

February 2, 1949

Captain R. W. Bates
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

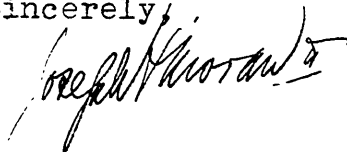
Dear Captain Bates:

Thank you for your letter of January 31st,
the contents of which I am passing on to the other
Peter Tares.

Your suggestions and advices with respect
to the attack on the main vat at Ruppert's will be
given very careful attention.

I am sorry that we will not see you, but
we still have the annual convention on for the week-
end of April 30th. I hope that we will see you at
that time.

Sincerely,



0051



DEPUTY CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS (PERSONNEL)

Pentagon WASHINGTON, D. C.
Room 4-E-526

3 February 1949

Dear Rafe:

Thank you very much for your
flattering letter. I hope I can give
concrete evidence of your confidence by
producing some concrete results.

It was nice to see you as always.

With kindest regards and best
wishes,

Sincerely,

Bill

W. M. Fechteler,
Vice Admiral, USN.

Captain R. W. Bates, USN
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

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L. F. BROWN
PRESIDENT

DONALD MCCLENCH
TREASURER

Service **INSURANCE**
~~INCORPORATED~~ **INC.**
31 Maryland Ave.
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND
PHONE 3080

February 4, 1949

Captain R. W. Bates, USN
Naval War College
Newport, R. I.

Dear Rafe:

Thanks a lot for your very nice letter of February 1st and, as you will note from the letterhead, I am attempting to use that ability which you so nicely ascribe to me to control the insurance world in the East instead of the West. The office is being run with permission from the Bureau of Personnel in order that I may protect my future should the Navy decide suddenly to cast me adrift.

I do hope that you will stick to your statement as to your intent not to work too hard and, if I can continue to be a paternal adviser to you, let me keep warning you that working too hard means working your head in the same way as it means working your muscles.

The Board did not say that your disability was combat incurred and I discussed this with the doctors who said that it could not be so stated even though it is quite possible that the main strain on your heart began during combat. What the finding did say was that it was incurred "in time of war or national emergency." As I understand it, you will be retired as an honorary Rear Admiral in any event but I know of no way to obtain any advantages that might accrue from the term "combat incurred." The only places where we have used this expression, and they are very few, has been where a man was directly wounded while in combat with the enemy.

There is one thing you might do for me up there if it would not be too much trouble. I am due to send in the 6th assignment on the correspondence course and, due to the pressure of various other things, I kept putting it off. I would appreciate it if you would notify whoever carries the record on this that I will not be able to get it in on time this time and would like an extension.

Best personal regards,

Leon

LFB:lm

0053

L. F. BROWN
PRESIDENT

DONALD MCCLENCH
TREASURER

Service **INSURANCE**
INC.
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ 31 Maryland Ave.
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND
PHONE 3080

February 18, 1949

Captain R. W. Bates, USN
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Rafe:

Thank you for talking to the powers that be about my correspondence course. I received an official letter extending the period, with a note from Gail Morgan along the same lines as you wrote me.

With reference to the wording on your papers, I have discussed this with the doctors who, of course, have the real decision in a case of this kind and they state that it is quite possible that the real breakdown in your heart action occurred while in combat but there would be no way for them to so state with the degree of certainty which is required of them in making that finding. They said that undoubtedly the same thing would have occurred at some time in any event but the strain and excessive activity required by combat operations undoubtedly hastened the action.

They are entirely sympathetic to your plea and their statements were none of them made arbitrarily but more from the standpoint that they were not in a position where they could definitely make the statement and, since the evidence is not such as to back them up, they would undoubtedly be called on if they tried to put it through purely because of sympathy with your wishes. You must understand that the "disabled in combat with the enemy" refinement on the findings is defined substantially as "a defect, wound or disability received while in actual combat with an organized enemy." Combat operations which include both the preparation for, as well as actual combat in the presence of the enemy is quite a different thing.

I have given you the above rather loose outline of the legal point involved with a view of telling you what you can do. Two courses are open to you which I discussed with the doctors the other day. The first would be for you to write a letter and send it in to the Naval Retiring Board to be attached to the record of your case for the perusal of the reviewing authorities. The case has already gone "topside." The second procedure would be for you to write a letter to the Secretary of the Navy requesting a re-hearing to enable you to present arguments to substantiate your claim that your disability was incurred in combat with an organized enemy. This would undoubtedly return the case to the Board for reconsideration and, if you can build up enough case, you might be able to have that portion of your finding changed as you desire. I think, however, it would have to be pretty good due to the nature of your trouble. I hope the above gives you a fair picture of the whole thing and if you want me to do anything more along these lines, I will be glad to accomodate.

Best regards.

Yours very truly,

LFB:lm

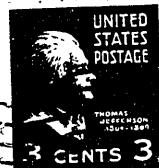
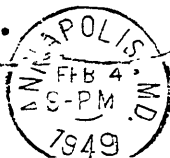
Brownie

0054

SERVICE INSURANCE, INC.

~~XXXXXXXX~~ 31 Maryland Ave.

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND



Captain R. W. Bates, USN
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

0055

9 February 1949

Dear Jim,

Have just checked all Japanese sources again, with following results. We have no war diary for the Yunagi, but in Nakamura's Diary p.34, para. (J) he must have been talking only about ~~the~~ Yunagi and the mention of Yubari in that paragraph making a loop must mean Yunagi, because he says "being far removed from the main force" and operating alone. First characters for the two ships are the same, and the second characters could be easily confused. So make that change in your copy of Nakamura's diary. I can find no mention of Yunagi turnoff from the main force, but the charts in ATIS-15685 look good to me--rely on them. This dope on Yunagi is borne out by one brief mention of her overall activities in WDC 160984, War Diary of 18th Sentai, my best translation of which follows (remarks in parens are my own observations):

"Yunagi also participated in this night action and sank an Omaha class ship (must be Chicago, tho' it requires a little stretch of the imagination) which went down with a great rumble (Chicago's bow blown off). She (Yunagi) also inflicted damage on an Achilles class ship (Jarvis) which was attempting to escape in the outer bay. The next day, the 9th, our air units were ordered to catch up with this ship and destroy it, bashing in its side (or its side already bashed in), thus adding another destroyer accounted for.

Thus changing Yubari to Yunagi in para (J) p.34 of the Ans's diary eliminates your problem about Yubari's loop, which she never made. Ralph Talbot must have been taken care of while they were continuing in line formation.

The only thing I know about Furutaka is contained in my file copy of the excerpt translation of WDC 160984 sent to you with my 2 Feb. letter. I think Furutaka's turnoff was occasioned by the damage to her steering control and nothing else. The other ships followed her in due course (that may not be good navalese, but it is OK lawyer talk.)

0056

ARMY AND NAVY CLUB
OF MANILA

24 February 1949

Captain R. W. Bates, USN
NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
Newport, R. I.
U. S. A.

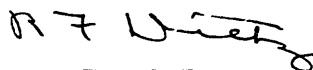
Dear Sir:

Your letter of 14 February 1949, with regard to your Life Membership, received today and your address which apparently was not on file, was duly registered so that communications can be sent to you at all times.

With regard to the action taken at the Annual Meeting on 17 January 1949, I am enclosing a copy of a letter sent to all Members of the Club giving a full report of what occurred.

There is no question of recognizing your life membership as our records definitely show that you are holding such a status, but the number of the card issued to you is 2002 not 2315, the date, however, given by you and the signature being correct. Our only trouble was that we had no address.

Very truly yours,



R. F. DIETZ
Lt., USN
Secretary

ENCL.
RFD/JMA/sl

0057

ARMY AND NAVY CLUB OF MANILA

To: All Members of the Army and Navy Club:

A Board of Directors of the Army and Navy Club dedicated to the preservation and continuance of the Club has been duly elected.

For the information of the Membership the results of the Annual Meeting held on 17 January 1949 were briefly as follows:

The two amendments proposed by the last Board of Directors were not considered on the grounds that the Board of Directors had not complied with the existing By-Laws, Article VI, in the following particulars:

- (a) The amendments originated within the Board of Directors.
- (b) The amendments were not originated and submitted to the Board of Directors by twenty (20) members for further submission to the corporate body.

A large number of the proxies that were voted, were challenged on the grounds that since the proposed amendments had no legal status in the language of the existing By-Laws, those proxies were equally illegal which empowered action on the amendments.

A number of proxies were rejected due to lack of evidence that the signers were regular members in good standing.

Other proxies were cancelled in lieu of second and later proxies submitted by the same individuals.

The challenge of the proxies was sustained by a 52 to 29 vote of the members present at the Annual Meeting.

The rejection of the proxies cited in the above paragraphs, which included the power of voting for Directors resulted in the selection of a new Board of Directors who were opposed to the principles of liquidation of the Club. Liquidation of the Club is the essence of the amendments proposed by the last Board of Directors.

It is regretted that it was necessary to reject a large number of proxies, for the reason stated in the above paragraphs, since the Annual Meeting adjourned with some sentiment that the election of the Board of Directors was determined by a minority of the permanent membership. This situation was, however, the result of lack of conformance with the existing By-Laws of the ARMY AND NAVY CLUB OF MANILA.

The Board of Directors elected for the year 1949 are listed herewith in the order of the number of votes received by each Director:

Comdr. R. F. Duelfer, Jr., USN	253
Comdr. George D. Good, USN	253
Comdr. J. H. Kuhl, USN	244
Capt. J. H. Morrill, USN	230
Comdr. Charles Pierce, USC&GS	225
Lt. Comdr. George H. Hall, USN	218
Colonel J. K. Evans, USA (Ret)	162
Colonel Frank G. Davis, USA	66
Mr. J. R. Carmichael	54
Lt. Col. Wallace M. Hanes, USA	38
Mr. L. G. Wagner	23

Your new Board of Directors elected at the Annual Meeting on 17 January 1949 has been organized as follows:

President	Capt. John H. Morrill	USN
1st V. P.	Colonel J. K. Evans	USA (Ret)
2nd V. P.	Commander Charles Pierce	USC & GS

Other Directors:

Mr. J. R. Carmichael	
Colonel Frank G. Davis	USA
Commander R. F. Duelfer Jr.	USN
Commander George D. Good	USN
Lt. Comdr. George H. Hall	USN
Commander J. H. Kuhl	USN
Mr. L. G. Wagner	

House Committee:

Colonel J. K. Evans,	Chairman
Commander R. F. Duelfer Jr.	
Commander George D. Good	

Membership Committee:

Mr. J. R. Carmichael,	Chairman
Colonel Frank G. Davis	
Commander Charles Pierce	
Mr. L. G. Wagner	

Secretary:

Lieut. R. F. Dietz, USN

Treasurer:

Mr. W. W. Everitt

It is the policy of the new Board of Directors to preserve the Club, to enhance the value of every membership of whatever class with favor to no category, to reestablish the Club's true membership, to push rehabilitation of the Club House, to improve the service and the quality of supplies, to provide more and better entertainment, to operate according to sound business principles, to enforce strictly all house rules including the rule against cash gratuities to employees, to increase member participation in Club affairs and in general, to make the Club more enjoyable in every way.

FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

R F Dietz

R. F. DIETZ
Lieut. USN
Secretary

Refer to:

U. S. NAVAL PHOTOGRAPHIC CENTER
NAVAL AIR STATION
ANACOSTIA 23, D. C.

3 March 1949.

Dear Captain Bates:

Thank you for the three copies of the Action Outline of "THE BATTLE OF MIDWAY".

Also thanks for your letter which has been very illuminating to me. It shows the care and detail that was involved in the production of both battle books.

I must confess that I was slightly confused by the conflict of opinion on some of the points of MIDWAY. It is plainly not in my province to resolve or settle divergent views but your letter accomplishes that. I appreciate the care you have shown to give the book's background and note that the responsible authority is Admiral Spruance. In case any dispute arises here--which I do not anticipate--may I quote that highly important section of your letter?

Again let me say that it was a great pleasure to work with you on this preparation of the Action Outline for Midway. My regret is that other commitments pressed me for time; however, I consider that we have a very good start. With this battle we shall proceed on the same lines: this outline will be submitted for approval here at Navy Photo Center and at Bureau Personnel. However, we shall gain time by starting the artist at work right away on his analysis of the visuals. When the script returns, I shall consult with you again at Newport before framing the final scenario.

Procurement is now inviting bids on "Coral Sea". I am visiting the firms invited to bid next week. They will be located in New York. Your expert assistance will be required, Captain, for a final check on the narration as well as okaying the sketches and visuals. As routine of picture production goes, that will be some three months hence.

Meanwhile I am pushing "Midway" and hope before long we can get the keel laid on "Savo Island".

My appreciation again, sir, for your letter and for your kind and cordial hospitality while I was in Newport.

My heartiest regards to yourself and to your staff.

Sincerely yours,

Captain R.W. Bates U.S.N.
Naval War College,
Newport. R.I.

Howard Southgate
Howard Southgate
Project Supervisor.

0060

HOWARD B. SPRAGUE, M.D.
1180 Beacon Street
Brookline 46, Massachusetts

March 15, 1949

Captain Richard W. Bates, U.S.N.,
Naval War College,
Newport, Rhode Island.

Dear Captain Bates:

This will confirm our conversation of March fourteenth, following my examination of you.

I think it is fair to say that you have mild coronary artery trouble with sufficient interference to the circulation of a small part of the heart muscle so that you have developed left bundle branch block. The only symptoms and signs of which you complain are rather easy fatigue, a sensation in the chest of "pulling", when under strain, and very mild edema of the ankles.

The heart was not enlarged to percussion, nor under the fluoroscope. The heart sounds were distant and there was a gallop rhythm. Slight pitting edema of the ankles. Oscillographic readings showed good arterial pulsations in the legs. This record was made on the right calf. The blood pressure in the arms was 135 to 140 mm. systolic and 90 mm. diastolic. Electrocardiogram showed normal rhythm, rate 85, with left bundle branch block.

In view of the absence of cardiac enlargement, I believe that the finding of bundle branch block shows only a mild degree of arterial change in the coronary system. I consider that you are a very dynamic, tense individual who will have to learn to control the emotions, and to continue working at a job which you can essentially run at your own speed. I believe that it is important that you should take off another ten or fifteen pounds in weight. You should avoid all strenuous exertion, particularly after meals and should avoid heavy meals in general. Moderation should be the aim in your case, but I think that you can continue with mild exercise if you do not indulge directly after eating, or in extremes of weather.

I should be glad to see you again in six months, if you do not move to another part of the country.

Very sincerely yours

Howard B. Sprague

HBS/M

0061

Refer to:

U. S. NAVAL PHOTOGRAPHIC CENTER
NAVAL AIR STATION
ANACOSTIA 20, D. C.

17 March 1949.

Captain Richard W. Bates, U.S.N.
Naval War College, Newport, R.I.

Dear Captain Bates:

Last week in New York City I interviewed the following firms who have been solicited for production bids on "The BATTLE OF THE CORAL SEA":

Audio Productions, Inc.
Film Graphics, Inc.
Paul J. Fennell Co.

These organizations were carefully selected because of their past record of production with the Navy, because of their creative talent with artists and animators, and their ability to carry through such a large, involved production within five months. All of these have met security requirements.

The bids should be into Procurement and the contract awarded within two weeks.

In the meantime, I have been working through the action outline for "Battle of Midway". This is the first version that I worked out with you some two weeks ago. It must be shortened to come within our economics of production. I am checking repetitions and shortening where I can. I believe that I am aware of your intent to stress the commander's angle that I can effect somewhat of a reduction; but I wish to bring it up again within a month for your review before entering our final script stage with "Midway."

I trust all is well with you, sir, and sincerely hope Cobb's wife is much improved and Innis has found that lost DD off Savo.

This is the 17th but Washington wears no spring green as yet.

Cordially yours,

Howard Southgate
Howard Southgate
Project Supervisor.

0062



THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS (AIR)
WASHINGTON

3 May 1949

Dear Rafe,

Thanks very much for your kind letter of 29 April. I greatly appreciate it.

I know how you feel about your retirement, but success is not always measured by the position you attain but more in the personal satisfaction of a job done well.

Maybe you are the lucky one, as there is nothing but lots of worrying and many headaches in so far as my present responsibilities are concerned. It is becoming more difficult for me to find a moment I can call my own nowadays.

With best wishes to you for a lot of deserved happiness,

Sincerely,


J.D. Price

Captain R.W. Bates, USN.
Naval War College
Newport, R.I.

0063

P. F. COLLIER & SON CORPORATION

250 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

May 12, 1949

Captain R. W. Bates, U.S.N.
U. S. Naval War College
Newport, R. I.

Dear Captain Bates:

According to our records we have not received the biographical form for the new Collier's Encyclopedia sent you some time ago. If we do not receive the completed form within two weeks, we shall not be able to include your name on the contributor's list.

We are enclosing a duplicate copy of the form and should appreciate your filling it out and returning it to us as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

C. P. Barry (pf)

Charles P. Barry
Editor
Encyclopedia Department

enc.
CPB:cjp

0064

U. S. NAVAL PROVING GROUND
DAHLGREN, VA.



18 July 1949

Dear Rafe,

Many thanks for your note of the 13th. My face is very red for I have found the publication "The Battle of Midway" carefully put away in my safe. Evidently, after the two publications arrived, I read the one on the Coral Sea and put the other away for safekeeping. I will take both of them along with me to Japan and drop you a line as to my reactions after I have had a chance to read both of them carefully.

Orders to relieve Count Berkey were awaiting me when I returned home from Newport last week. We are now frantically engaged in packing up our effects, etc., as I must be out there about the 20th of August. I am driving across the continent with Martha and Molly to San Francisco where I will put the family on an Army transport the same day I take a plane to Japan.

We certainly enjoyed seeing you again at Newport. You may not have too good a heart, but you certainly looked healthy to me.

With every good wish from both Martha and myself, I am

Sincerely,

Turner

Room 104

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN
Naval War College
Newport, R. I.

0065

15 August 1949

New York State Education Department
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
65 Court Street
Buffalo 2, N.Y.

Attn: Mr. H. G. Muelke, Supervisor

Gentlemen:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 27th of July with relation to Vincent C. Grzedzielski, Jr., who reported he served under my command from 1943 until 1944.

I have been endeavoring to obtain some information concerning the man in question and I regret to say that although it is quite possible that he did some barbering on the Minneapolis, I am unable to say so officially. As a matter of interest, I do not recollect Mr. Grzedzielski at all which is not surprising as there were roughly 1400 men on the Minneapolis and I spent most of my time on the bridge.

Naturally, I should like to assist in any way possible any man who served in the forward areas and I can assure you that any one in the Minneapolis during the dates mentioned not only served in the forward areas but was under heavy gun fire on numerous occasions.

I do not know what to recommend concerning subject man as I have no records with me. It is possible that Captain James B. Hogle, U.S.N., who can be reached through the Bureau of Naval Personnel at Arlington, Virginia might have some knowledge, as he was the Executive Officer and therefore generally occupied with personnel.

0066

Page 2

To be qualified as a barber with Ships Service, a man would necessarily have to be appointed by the Ships Service Officer. Merely barbering about the ship would not be sufficient in my mind to classify him as a competent barber.

With sincere regrets that I cannot supply more information and with further regrets that I have not replied earlier as I have generally been on tour, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. Bates
Rear Admiral, USN(Ret.)

0067

Robb M. DeGraff
106 N. Bancroft Parkway
Wilmington, Delaware

September 14, 1949

Dear Admiral Bates:

I realize I am a bit remiss in offering my thanks to you for making Labor Day weekend such a pleasant one in Newport - especially at the Clambake Club.

It was truly a privilege and pleasure to be your guest twice in one weekend. I am sorry I let you down a bit on the shooting end, but like golf, trap shooting is a sport that requires regular practice in order to qualify as any sort of a shot at all. Perhaps I can get in some rounds between now and next year, and will then have the honor to ask you to shoot with me.

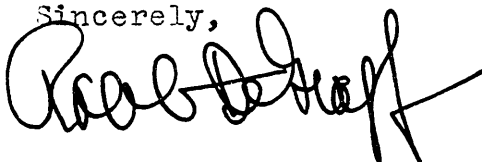
I envy you in your writing project, and hope that it is coming along well. With so many 'analyses' in the national magazines these days, the field is certainly wide open for anyone to publish a well thought out, and comprehensive work. The statement is of course leading, for I wondered if your appetite had been whetted with your serious writing, so that a magazine piece appealed to you at all.

We're back at the grind in Wilmington, and the prospects of winter evenings at home look quite inviting right now, after a summer away from home. We look forward to the Army-Navy game, and a Xmas visit from the Bearys.

We hope too, that if you are down this way you won't pass up the opportunity to stop in for a little De Graff cheer.

Many thanks again from both Alice and myself.

Sincerely,



0068

HOWARD B. SPRAQUE, M.D.
1180 Beacon Street
Brookline 46, Massachusetts

October 4, 1949

Rear Admiral Richard W. Bates, U.S.N.
Naval War College
Newport
Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

This will confirm my verbal report to you concerning my examination of you on September 27, 1949. Your chief complaint, at the present time, seems to be easy fatigue, on exertion, and a slight sense of pulling in the chest. There was some swelling of the ankles in hot weather.

Physical examination showed you to be in good general condition. Blood pressure in the left arm was 130/80, and in the right arm, 125/90. The heart sounds were of fair quality. There was no evidence of congestive failure. Examination of the fundi was negative. Electrocardiogram continued to show typical left bundle branch block, and one premature beat was recorded. Fluoroscopic examination showed your heart not more than borderline in size.

My instructions included advice to reduce to a weight of two hundred, if possible, and to have exercise in the form of message, and golf played on easy courses.

While you have good cardiac reserve at the present time, it must be recognized that the electrocardiographic changes indicates some localized coronary artery disturbance, and you, therefore, cannot be expected to work under high pressure. I believe it would be reasonable to consider that you were not less than eighty-five per cent disabled.

Sincerely yours

HBS/vr

0069



DEPUTY CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS (PERSONNEL)
WASHINGTON

13 October 1949

Dear Rafe,

Thank you very much for your note regarding the Pay Bill. It was good of you to write.

With regard to the rank in which you have been recalled to active duty, I am sorry that I cannot give you a satisfactory reply at this time. We are making some efforts to clear up that situation, but as I think you can gather from the daily papers, such projects have rather low priority.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Bill

W. M. FECHTELER,
Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy.

Commodore Richard W. Bates, USN (Ret.),
Naval War College,
Newport, R.I.

0070

REDWOOD LIBRARY AND ATHENÆUM

NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

November 9, 1949.

Captain Richard W. Bates,
12, Mount Vernon Street,
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Captain Bates:

Enclosed please find Original Share Number 175 of the Company of the Redwood Library and Athenaeum. It gives me great pleasure to welcome you, on behalf of the Directors, as a Proprietor of the Library.

Will you please fill out and return for our records the receipt attached to the share certificate.

Sincerely,

J. Alden Manley.
J. Alden Manley
Librarian

0071

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

November 15, 1949

Dear Rafe:

Thank you for your letter of
November 8th and for your confidence in
me.

I am glad to note also your con-
fidence in Lynde McCormick which, of course,
I share to a remarkable degree.

Cordially yours,



Commodore R. W. Eates, USN,
Naval War College,
Newport, Rhode Island.

0072